

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 26, 2007. Claims 1 and 3 to 16 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 5 and 6 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,765,177 (Nakatsuyama) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,933,599 (Nolan). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

The present invention defined by amended independent Claims 1, 5 and 6 generally concerns document processing, and more specifically involves insertion of a second document file into a first document file. The first document file is displayed in a display region. An insertion instruction to insert at least one second document file into a specified insertion position in the display region is inputted using a first or a second inputting method. A judgment is made as to whether the first or the second inputting method is used for inputting the insertion instruction. When the first inputting method is used, a first determination is made. In the first determination, an attribute of the second document file is used to determine an insertion method for the second document file from a plurality of insertion methods. When the second inputting method is used, a menu dialog is displayed, which includes a plurality of choices corresponding to the plurality of insertion methods. In a second determination, a choice selected from the plurality of choices in the menu dialog is used to determine the insertion method for the second document file from the plurality of insertion methods.

The second document file is inserted into the first document file on the basis of the insertion method determined in the first determination or the second determination. The plurality of insertion methods include at least a first insertion method in which one chapter is newly generated at the insertion position and the second document file is inserted into the newly generated chapter, and a second insertion method in which the second document file is inserted into an existing chapter at the insertion position.

Applicants submit that Nakatsuyama fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the present invention, and that any combination of Nakatsuyama with Nolan would also fail to render the claimed invention obvious. Specifically, as interpreted by Applicants, the applied art fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) inputting an insertion instruction to insert at least one second document file into a specified insertion position in a display region using a first or a second inputting method; (ii) judging whether the first or the second inputting method is used for inputting the insertion instruction; (iii) making a first determination when the first inputting method is used, wherein an insertion method for the second document file is determined from a plurality of insertion methods using an attribute of the second document file; (iv) displaying a menu dialog which includes a plurality of choices corresponding to the plurality of insertion methods, when the second inputting method is used; and (v) making a second determination when the second inputting method is used, wherein the insertion method for the second document file is determined from the plurality of insertion methods, based on a choice selected from the plurality of choices in the menu dialog.

The Office Action alleges that column 7, lines 32 to 36 of Nakatsuyama discloses inputting an instruction to insert at least one second document file into the first

document file displayed in the display region. However, Nakatsuyama does not disclose using a first or a second inputting method to input an instruction, much less judging whether the first or the second inputting method is used. Moreover, while Nakatsuyama discloses a command for insertion of electronic documents, Nakatsuyama is silent on determining an insertion method using an attribute of a second document file. Therefore, Nakatsuyama is not seen to disclose or suggest (i) inputting an insertion instruction to insert at least one second document file into a specified insertion position in a display region using a first or a second inputting method; (ii) judging whether the first or the second inputting method is used for inputting the insertion instruction; and (iii) making a first determination when the first inputting method is used, wherein an insertion method for the second document file is determined from a plurality of insertion methods using an attribute of the second document file.

The Office Action acknowledges that Nakatsuyama does not disclose determining a selection from a menu dialog. However, page 4 of the Office Action cites Nolan for this alleged disclosure. Applicants submit that Nolan is not seen to compensate for the deficiencies of Nakatsuyama.

Figs. 4 to 9 of Nolan show examples of a user interface created by the Win 95 Explorer. The user interface includes a two-pane window in which the left pane displays folders in a user's computer, and the right pane displays the contents of a selected folder. The Win 95 Explorer contains a command menu 406. See Fig. 4. Additionally, Fig. 24 of Nolan shows an example of a process of creating a shortcut data object wherein a user selects an icon and uses a mouse to drag and drop the selected icon into a folder. While Nolan discloses a command menu 406 and selecting icons, Nolan is silent on

displaying a menu dialog which includes a plurality of choices corresponding to a plurality of insertion methods. Moreover, Nolan is silent on selecting one of the plurality of choices in the menu dialog. Therefore, Nolan is not seen to disclose or suggest (iv) displaying a menu dialog which includes a plurality of choices corresponding to the plurality of insertion methods, when the second inputting method is used; and (v) making a second determination when the second inputting method is used, wherein the insertion method for the second document file is determined from the plurality of insertion methods, based on a choice selected from the plurality of choices in the menu dialog.

Therefore, Nakatsuyama and Nolan, either alone or in combination, are not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) inputting an insertion instruction to insert at least one second document file into a specified insertion position in a display region using a first or a second inputting method; (ii) judging whether the first or the second inputting method is used for inputting the insertion instruction; (iii) making a first determination when the first inputting method is used, wherein an insertion method for the second document file is determined from a plurality of insertion methods using an attribute of the second document file; (iv) displaying a menu dialog which includes a plurality of choices corresponding to the plurality of insertion methods, when the second inputting method is used; and (v) making a second determination when the second inputting method is used, wherein the insertion method for the second document file is determined from the plurality of insertion methods, based on a choice selected from the plurality of choices in the menu dialog.

In light of the deficiencies of Nakatsuyama and Nolan as disclosed above, Applicants submit that independent Claims 1, 5, and 6 are in condition for allowance.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

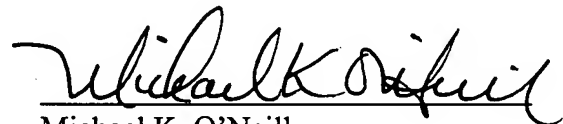
An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on October 2, 2007.

Consideration of the art cited therein is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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